

INTER-OFFICE 18

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. 25X1A

TOPIC Soviet Troop Training Grounds Guarded by Volkspolizei

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT mid-April to late April 1952

DATE OBTAINED 18 June 1952

REFERENCES 25X1C

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Since mid-April 1952, all roads leading to the Kindel troop training grounds have been controlled by large numbers of Volkspolizei riding in sedans and on trucks. Volkspolizei detachments appeared whenever trains were unloaded at the Eisenach railroad station. The roads out of Eisenach are also controlled by a large number of Volkspolizei. The VP unit which arrived in Eisenach together with the first Soviet troops at the troop training grounds were quartered in the low wooden buildings of the former Marienthal firing range. The motor transport park of the Volkspolizei which includes at least 120 motorcycles including sidecar motorcycles and 16 sedans and 8 trucks was also located there.
2. In late April 1952, source learned from a VP Oberkommissar that he and 17 young VP members were to guard the Templin troop training grounds and had to closely cooperate with the Soviet komendatura at Templin. The VP Oberkommissar stated that he and the men wore civilian clothing and that some had bicycles. They had to patrol all vital roads near the troop training grounds day and night and to check on all pertinent railroad lines and bus lines. He said that such detachments were established at all major Soviet summer camps and had received joint training at a special school.

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* Comment. Several sources reported that covering the Soviet troop training grounds was particularly difficult this year as they were more heavily guarded. It is possible that VP guard units under the HVA in the Laender were employed to guard approach roads and channels to the troop training grounds. No information has been received to indicate that HVA units have been employed for this purpose. It is believed that the Volkspolizei furnishes only personnel to guard areas outside the camps, while the camps are guarded inside by the Soviets.

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